

E. PALESTINE VILLAGE COUNCIL 12/11/17 85 N. MARKET ST. 7PM

Mayor Zuch called the meeting to order. Present was Mr. Cohen, Mr. Elzer, Mr. Todd, Mr. Walker and Mr. Yokley. Mr. Tyger was absent. Also present was Village Manager Pete Monteleone, Law Director David Powers, Finance Director Traci Thompson and Clerk Misti Martin. The minutes of the 11/27/17 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Cohen seconded by Mr. Walker. The November 2017 department reports were approved on a motion by Mr. Walker seconded by Mr. Cohen. There were no Agenda items.

CLERK: Clerk Misti Martin reminded Council that the next meet had been rescheduled to Thursday December 28 at 7pm.

MAYOR: Mayor Zuch thanked the Park Board for the Children's Christmas event the held over the weekend, she said it was very nice and had a great turn out. Mr. Cohen agreed saying the attendance was unbelievable upwards of 150-200 people. She also stated newly elected Council Jim Hall, Doug Simpson and Alan Cohen would be sworn in at the Dec. 28 meeting.

MANAGER: Manager Monteleone stated they received the 60% plan for the water project from MS Consultants, he also said things are moving along with the waste water project. He stated we are moving forward with the grant for the Shelters and the contract has been signed. He stated legislation is ready to go for the first meeting of 2018 for paving.

LAW DIRECTOR: NO REPORT

STREET: NO REPORT

SAFETY/PARK/REC/CEM: Mr. Yokley stated that the High school Baseball and Softball teams will no longer be playing in the Park and that EPYSA will be following suit. He said Council had discussed the condition of the fields and the need to put money into them months ago, to that end we did nothing. He said they will be playing at the new Next Level facility on Rt. 14. He said he is on the fence with this issue because it is an amazing facility and great opportunity for the kids but we will be losing the teams and the foot traffic those games bring into the park and the surrounding businesses in the community. He feels the people see the money going into the tennis courts and wonder why no money was put into the fields. He stated as far as the tennis courts were concerned the grants required matching so we had to do it; it was very unique to that circumstance. Mr. Yokley stated he has played baseball at the park since he was little and he is frustrated to not see that tradition carried on. He would like to try to figure out a way to keep them here but he thought it had already been decided on. He stated he would like to resurrect the communication issue with the school and move forward and not find out they are leaving the park in the Morning Journal. Mr. Elzer agreed saying we knew a year ago this facility was being built and that the condition of the fields are horrible and that having people come in from out of town to see the park is an asset, he said we should fix the fields now so when the opportunity arises we can get those people back or possibly book other games to the park. Mr. Yokley stated in the short term the fields are going to be empty, get overgrown and then cost even more to repair. There was a lengthy discussion as to what repairs need to be made and how, with Mr. Cohen stating that Next Level is a for profit business and the Village is not. He questioned how we would come up with the money for the repair and if we would even see a return at this point since the teams are now leaving. Mr. Elzer brought up the repairs to the shelters and there are no guarantees with those to which Mr. Cohen stated the shelters do bring in an income. Yokley stated the pool is the number one draw at the park with baseball/softball being a close second; we need to make the fields so that people want to use them. Mr. Yokley stated the Village does nothing to maintain the fields besides cut the grass, he said these organizations are now will to pay money to play elsewhere so why wouldn't we charge them to help defer maintenance cost, he said we need to proactive. Monteleone said there is communication between the school and the Village. Mr. Cohen suggested a S/P/R/C Committee meeting prior to the first meeting of the year on January 8, 2018 at 6pm to discuss these issues along with representatives from the School and EPYSA to see what, if any

options we have to get them to stay. Mr. Cohen stated being proactive is one of the reasons why the tennis courts are being done because we were in danger of losing the high school tennis team, but it was unique in that we were able to “double” our money. Monteleone stated he also wants to keep the fields in use but one of the biggest issues in manpower, that we had a hard time keeping up with the park when we had all of our summer help from the county, now we have the Park foreman and a couple part time kids to do upkeep on the entire park, that’s why the school/EPYSA has to help with the upkeep of the fields. Mr. Yokley stated we always say our park is our number one asset but he feels it is actually our people; they make our park the crown jewel.

DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Elzer stated that Mark Blackwell (China Designer) is opening an outlet store in town and he is having an open house on Thursday 14 from 5 to 7pm at the hotel. His designs are printed at EP China Decorating.

UTILITY: NO REPORT

FINANCE: NO REPORT

VISITORS: John Herbert, Tami Harris, Jim Hall, Doug Simpson, Terri Ward, Dianna Elzer, John Davis, Chief Jim Brown, Denise Powers and Katie White.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 27-2017 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance adopting the appropriation for the current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of East Palestine, Ohio, during the fiscal year beginning January 1 2018 and adopting estimated resources and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Yokley made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Cohen. Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Todd-y, Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y. Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Ord. 27-2017. Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Todd-y, Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y. 5 yes to pass. Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 28-2017 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only **An ordinance pursuant to Section 246.02 of the codified ordinances of the Municipality of East Palestine, an ordinance amending ordinance 22-2012 regarding the personnel designation of some members of the Police Department.** Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 29-2017 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance authorizing the Village Manager to enter into a contract with David P. Powers to serve as the Municipal Attorney for a one year term, commencing January 1, 2018 in accordance with the contract attached hereto as exhibit A.** Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 30-2017 for a second reading seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance to amend chapter 882 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of East Palestine regarding municipal income tax.** Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 31-2017 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance adopting the negotiated pay increase between the Village of East Palestine (employer) and the Teamsters (union) and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Yokley made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Cohen. Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Todd-n, Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y, Mr. Cohen-y. Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Ord. 31-2017. Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Todd-y, Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y, Mr. Cohen-y. 5 yes to pass. Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 32-2017 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance adopting the negotiated pay increase between the Village of East Palestine (employer) and the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Yokley made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Cohen. Mr. Todd-n, Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y, Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-y. Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Ord. 32-2017. Mr. Todd-y, Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y, Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-y 5 yes to pass. Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 33-2017 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance amending the Village of East Palestine Employee Handbook effective January 1, 2018 and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Yokley made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Cohen. Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y, Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Todd-n. Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Ord. 33-2017. Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y, Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Todd-y. 5 yes to pass. Mr. Yokley introduced Res. 21-2017 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **A resolution**

authorizing the Village Manager on behalf of the Village to offer permanent par time employees medical insurance coverage as required by the Federal Affordable Care Act. Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Res. 21-2017. Mr. Yokley-y, Mr .Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Todd-y, Mr. Walker-y.

ADJOURN: Mr. Walker made a motion to adjourn seconded by Mr. Cohen. All in favor.

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR MARGO ZUCH